



Alabama Department of Industrial Relations

News Release

For Immediate Release: January 25, 2012

Unemployment Assistance Available to Those Who Lost Jobs Due to Severe Weather

MONTGOMERY – Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Director Tom Surtees announced today that those who lost their jobs due to the severe weather that swept through the state on January 23 may be eligible for unemployment compensation.

Many areas throughout the state were impacted, especially in Jefferson and Chilton Counties. Governor Robert Bentley declared a state of emergency for all 67 counties on Monday.

“If someone is no longer able to report to work because their place of employment was destroyed or damaged to the point where it is no longer accessible to employees, or if someone is no longer able to get to their place of employment as a direct result of Monday’s storms, they need to contact us,” said Surtees.

As of today, there has not yet been a federal Disaster Declaration, but should one be forthcoming, additional benefits may be available.

Individuals who need to file a claim should do so by calling 1-866-234-5382 or by visiting DIR’s website at www.dir.alabama.gov.

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Members of the media needing more information should contact Public Information Officer Tara Hutchison at (334) 242-8616.